

CROFT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE


Croft Rural District,

For the year ending December 31st, 1911.

C. E. WALKER, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population at the last Census, 1911	2,236
Area of District, in Acres	19,884



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*To the Chairman and Committee of the
Croft Rural District.*

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting the Annual Report for 1911, which includes the nine months I have acted as your Medical Officer of Health, the calculations are based upon the Census taken during the year and therefore on a population of 2,236, which is an increase of 129 over that of the previous Census.

The number of inhabited houses and population in the district according to the Census is as follows:—

Villages.			Inhabited Houses.			Population.
1.	Barton	...	...	125	...	558
2.	Cleasby	...	...	41	...	165
3.	Cliffe	...	...	12	...	59
4.	Croft	...	...	97	...	494
5.	Dalton	...	...	35	...	166
6.	Dinsdale, Over	...	...	18	...	85
7.	Eryholme	...	...	35	...	168
8.	Girsby	...	...	11	...	70
9.	Manfield	...	...	58	...	273
10.	Newton Morrell	...	...	11	...	43
11.	Stapleton	...	...	33	...	155

This yields an average of 4·6 or rather over $4\frac{1}{2}$ inhabitants to each household, and therefore a somewhat smaller number than for the previous year.

During the year ending with December, 1911, there have been 26 deaths registered, viz.: 14 males and 12 females, or 3 in excess of 1910, and equal to a death-rate of 11·6 per thousand.

The births for the year have amounted to 46, also just 3 less than for the previous year, viz.: 25 males and 21 females, with a birth-rate of 20·6 per thousand.

Out of this number of deaths, 7 have been those of children in the first year of their life, and these produce an infantile rate of mortality of 152 per thousand of the registered births.

There have been nine deaths of persons over 70 years, and two of persons over 80 years, and thus nearly half the deaths.

So far as the Seasons were concerned, the deaths were as under:

January	...	3	April	...	1	July	...	4	October	...	2
February	...	4	May	...	1	August	...	1	November	...	1
March	...	2	June	...	0	September	...	5	December	...	2

One Zymotic death was registered at Barton from Enteric Fever, but the person was on a visit there and the disease was not contracted in the Croft Area. The notification was received after death had taken place, and disinfection was thoroughly carried out and no other cases resulted from it. There has only been one case of Scarlet Fever notified at Newton Morrell, and that occurred during the Autumn, and the child was isolated at its home and precautionary measures were taken with a satisfactory result. A school party from Manfield during a day's outing to the seaside in August were exposed to the infection of Scarlet Fever, and as a precautionary measure three of the suspects were placed in quarantine for eight days and the School closed for a like time, and fortunately no cases of fever developed. Measles affected many children in Croft and Dalton during the Spring, necessitating the closing of the School for a short period. The same Fever combined with Whooping Cough at Eryholme led to the School there also being closed for a few weeks. Diarrhœa and Enteritis accounted for three infantile deaths, one early in the year at Newton Morrell, and two during the Autumn at Eryholme and Cleasby. The child at the latter village had not been medically attended and an inquest had to be held. Considering the very hot summer, there does not seem to have been any undue prevalence of diarrhœal attacks in your District. From July to September a large proportion of the deaths, over one-third, took place, and consequently during the very hot weather which continued throughout the Summer months, and was markedly fatal amongst the old people.

The increases in the population of the District during the past decade have been most at Stapleton which has added another 33 per cent. to its population, Barton about 8 per cent., Croft over 6 per cent., and all the other Townships have slightly increased their populations with the sole exception of Newton Morrell which has decreased some 10 per cent.

Manfield has the unenviable position of having contributed the largest number of deaths for the year, it having had seven, although four were of old persons from 70 to 80 years, and hence has a death-rate of 25·6 per thousand. At Barton four deaths have been recorded, and the death-rate has only been 7·1 per thousand.

By the medical inspection of the school children at the five Schools which takes place during the year at three periods of their school life, viz.: at entrance, at the third year, and on leaving, and where the medical defects are pointed out and instructions given to parents, which if carried out, as they are in many instances, must tend very considerably to improve the health and well-being of that portion of your population.

The Rural District is populated by persons mainly employed in the healthy occupation of agriculture, with some hundred men engaged in quarrying at Barton, and a fair proportion of residential inhabitants distributed throughout the area.

In the matter of Town Planning, steps are now being taken to carry out the provisions of this Act, and house-to-house inspections have been made, and are being made, in the various townships, and faulty houses and buildings are being noted, and at Eryholme where several require attention, progress is to be made during the present Spring with the much-desired and necessary alterations, and where the drainage should be overhauled before.

At Barton, in spite of its low death-rate and good state of health during the past year, there is as yet no satisfactory system of drainage, which is so requisite for such a large village, and where much of the sewage passes into the beck and ultimately into the river. Hence, it appears now imperative to carry out a complete system of drainage with sewers and a septic tank, such as is now planned by your Inspector and which is now under the consideration of the Barton Committee.

I fear much of the contents of the main sewer overflow at Croft finds its way into the river Tees, and here again a system for the treatment of the sewage is called for to obviate this as also for the general well-being, and it would permit of the School drains being connected, as these have not been so satisfactory recently although they have been put in good order again.

The water supply which is derived from wells and springs through pumps (except at Croft where many houses are now connected with the main water supply) has held out well in spite of the prolonged drought during the Summer, and has also been of a satisfactory nature. A sample of water at Barton School was analysed and certified usable if filtered; and at Holme House Farm the water from the well was also analysed and with a similar report. Fencing has been placed round the Stapleton pump like that of Cleasby, and it would be advisable to have the same done at Dalton and Eryholme pumps. The Half Moon Inn at Barton on completion of alterations had several sanitary defects which were pointed out by Mr. Boyd, and ultimately, though tardily, remedied.

Eight of the eighteen cottages of the Barton Limestone Company have been completed and made fit for habitation, and are satisfactory as to structure, drainage, and water supply. The house at Eryholme has also been completed and occupied, and special care will have to be taken that no overflow of sewage passes into the Tees from it. Two villas have been built during the year at Croft and are fit for habitation, and the house at Dalton

has been finished and is now inhabited. Some slight alterations have taken place to Manfield School Classroom which will improve the ventilation and heating arrangements, as well as by adding other necessary structural alterations. A new Reading Room at Manfield for which plans were passed, of a more substantial nature than the previous wooden structure, is in course of construction.

Cow byres at Lodge Farm, Croft, were found inadequate for the number of cows, and were faulty in several other ways as pointed out by the Inspector, and have been attended to. Butchers shops and cow byres have been inspected, and the cleansing, ventilating, and whitewashing have been duly carried out. Attention has also been paid to the dairies and their appliances and management during the year.

The pumps at the various villages have been well looked after and kept in order.

Several nuisances caused by ashpits and privies have been remedied, and the drainage of various buildings put in order and the other sanitary requirements of the District attended to by Mr. Boyd.

Flushing of the various sewers has been systematically done.

No cases of unsound meat have had to be dealt with during the year.

The inspection of the District has been regularly and periodically carried out.

No Sanatorium or Hospital accommodation exists in the Croft Rural District for the treatment of any cases of Phthisis in any three stages of the disease.

The various tables of vital statistics as issued and required by the Local Government Board are placed at the end of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. ED. WALKER, M.D. Edin.,

*Medical Officer of Health
to the Croft Rural District Council.*

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1911 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non- residents registered in the District.	Of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		
1906	2107		52	24·6	17	8·6		4		21	9·9	
1907	2107		42	19·9	32	15·8		3		35	16·6	
1908	2107		45	21·3	22	10·4		5		27	12·8	
1909	2107		39	18·5	31	14·7		0		31	14·7	
1910	2107		49	23·2	23	11		0		23	11	
1911	2236		46	20·6	26	11·6	3	3	7	3·1	26	11·6

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 19,884,

Total population at all ages 2236 } At
Number of inhabited houses 476 } Census of
Average number of persons per house 4 6 } 1911.

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1911.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.				TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.		No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.
	At all Ages.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	25 to 65 years.	BARTON.	NEWTON MORRELL.	
SCARLET FEVER	..	1	..	..	..	1	
ENTERIC FEVER	1	..	1	..	
TOTALS	..	1	1	..	1	1	

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).						Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in District.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65	65 and upwards.	BARTON, NEWTON, MORRELL.	CROFT AND DALTON.	OVER DINDALE, GIRSBY.	FRYHOLME.	MANFIELD AND CLIFFE.	STAPLETON AND CLEASBY.	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	3
Broncho-Pneumonia	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	3
Senile Decay	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	2	..	..	2	..	5
Heart Diseases	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	1	1	3
Other Defined Diseases	4	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	4
TOTALS	26	7	1	1	1	2	2	12	5	5	2	1	7	6	26

TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1911.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	2 to 3 Weeks.	3 to 4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1 to 3 Months	6 to 9 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
CERTIFIED	1	1	2	4	2	1	7
DIARRHŒA .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
ENTERITIS .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1
ATROPHY, DEBILITY, AND MARASMUS ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1
BRONCHITIS .. ..	..	..	1	1	..	1	2
PNEUMONIA (all forms)	..	..	1	1	..	..	1
	1	1	2	4	2	1	7

Births in the year	legitimate	..	..	46
	illegitimate	..	..	0
Deaths in the year of	legitimate infants	..	..	7
	illegitimate infants	..	..	0

